

PRI

This little impudent hardware-man turns into ridicule the direful apprehensions of the whole kingdom, *priding himself as the cause of them.* *Swift's Miscel.*

PRIE. *n. f.* I suppose an old name of privet.

Lop poplar and fallow, elme, maple and prie, *Tusser.*

Wel faved from cattel, till summer to lie.

PRIEF for *prose.* *Spenser.*

PRIER. *n. f.* [from *pry.*] One who enquires too narrowly.

PRIEST. *n. f.* [priest, Sax. *præste*, Fr.]

1. One who officiates in sacred offices.

I'll to the vicar,

Bring you the maid, you shall not lack a priest. *Shakesp.*

The high priest shall not uncover his head. *Lev. xxi. 10.*

Our practice of finging differs from the practice of David,

the priests and Levites. *Peabam.*

These pray's I thy priest before thee bring. *Milton.*

2. One of the second order in the hierarchy, above a deacon,

below a bishop.

No neighbours, but a few poor simple clowns,

Honest and true, with a well-meaning priest. *Rowe.*

PRIESTCRAFT. *n. f.* [priest and craft.] Religious frauds;

management of wicked priests to gain power.

Puzzle has half a dozen common-place topics; though

the debate be about Doway, his discourse runs upon bigotry

and priestcraft. *Speclator.*

From priestcraft happily set free,

Lo! ev'ry finish'd son returns to thee. *Pope.*

PRIESTESS. *n. f.* [from *priest.*] A woman who officiated in

heaven rites.

Then too, our mighty sire, thou stood'st disarm'd,

When thy rap soul the lovely priestess charm'd,

That Rome's high founder bore. *Addison.*

These two, being the sons of a lady who was priestess to

Juno, drew their mother's chariot to the temple. *Speclator.*

She as priestess knows the rites,

Wherein the God of earth delights. *Swift's Miscel.*

Th' inferior priestess, at her altar's side,

Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride. *Pope.*

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priest.*]

1. The office and character of a priest.

Jeroboam is reproved, because he took the priesthood from

the tribe of Levi. *Whitgift.*

The priesthood hath in all nations, and all religions, been

held highly venerable. *Athenbury's Sermons.*

2. The order of men set apart for holy offices.

Is your priesthood grown so peremptory? *Shakesp.*

He pretends, that I have fallen foul on priesthood. *Dryden.*

3. The second order of the hierarchy. See **PRIEST.**

PRIESTLINESS. *n. f.* [from *priestly.*] The appearance or man-

ner of a priest.

PRIESTLY. *adj.* [from *priest.*] Becoming a priest; sacerdotal;

belonging to a priest.

In the Jewish church, none that was blind or lame was

capable of the priestly office. *South's Sermons.*

How can incest suit with holiness,

Or priestly orders with a princely state? *Dryden.*

PRIESTRIDDEN. *adj.* [priest and ridden.] Managed or gov-

erned by priests.

Such a cant of high-church and persecution, and being

priestridden. *Swift.*

TO PRIEVE for *prove.* *Spenser.*

PRIG. *n. f.* [A cant word derived perhaps from *prick*, as he

pricks up, he is *pert*; or from *prickard*, an epithet of re-

proach bestowed upon the presbyterian teachers.] A pert,

conceited, saucy, pragmatical, little fellow.

The little man concluded, with calling monsieur Mesnager

an insignificant *prig.* *Speclator, N° 482.*

There have I seen some active *prigs,*

To fiew his parts, bestride a twig. *Swift's Miscel.*

PRILL. *n. f.* A bird or turbot. *Ainsworth.*

PRIM. *adj.* [by contraction from *primitive.*] Formal; precise;

affectedly nice.

A ball of new dropt horse's dung,

Mingling with apples in the throng,

Said to the pippin, plump and *prim,*

See, brother, how we apples swim. *Swift's Miscel.*

TO PRIM. *v. a.* [from the adjective.] To deck up precisely;

to form to an affected nicety.

PRIMACY. *n. f.* [primatic, primace, Fr. *primatus*, Lat.] The

chief ecclesiastical station.

When he had now the primacy in his own hand, he thought

he should be to blame if he did not apply remedies. *Clarend.*

PRIMAGE. *n. f.* The freight of a ship. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMAL. *adj.* [primus, Lat.] First. A word not in use, but

very commodious for poetry.

It hath been taught us from the primal state,

That he, which is, was with'd, until he were. *Shakesp.*

Oh! my offence is rank, it smells to heav'n,

It hath the primal, eldest curse upon't. *Shakesp.*

PRIMARILY. *adv.* [from *primary.*] Originally; in the first

intention; in the first place.

In fevers, where the heart primarily suffereth, we apply

medicines unto the wrists. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

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These considerations so exactly suiting the parable of the wedding-supper to this spiritual banquet of the gospel, if it does not *primarily*, and in its first design, intend it; yet certainly it may, with greater advantage of resemblance, be applied to it, than to any other duty. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMARINESS. *n. f.* [from *primary.*] The state of being first

in act or intention.

That which is peculiar, must be taken from the *primari-*

ness and secondariness of the perception. *Norris.*

PRIMARY. *adj.* [primarius, Lat.]

1. First in intention.

The figurative notation of this word, and not the *primary*

or literal, belongs to this place. *Hammond.*

2. Original; first.

Before that beginning, there was neither *primary* matter to

be informed, nor form to inform, nor any being but the

eternal. *Raleigh's History of the World.*

When the ruins both *primary* and secondary were settled,

the waters of the abyss began to settle too. *Burnet.*

These I call original or *primary* qualities of body, which

produce simple ideas in us, viz. solidity, extension, figure

and motion. *Locke.*

3. First in dignity; chief; principal.

As the six *primary* planets revolve about him, so the se-

condary ones are moved about them in the same isothermal

proportion of their periodical motions to their orbs. *Bentley.*

PRIMATE. *n. f.* [primat, Fr. *primas*, Lat.] The chief eccle-

siastick.

When the power of the church was first established, the

archbishops of Canterbury and York had then no prehe-

minence one over the other; the former being *primate* over the

Southern, as the latter was over the Northern parts. *Ascham.*

The late and present *primate*, and the lord archbishop of

Dublin hath left memorials of his bounty. *Swift.*

PRIMATESHIP. *n. f.* [from *primate.*] The dignity or office

of a *primate.*

PRIME. *n. f.* [primus, Lat.]

1. The first part of the day; the dawn; the morning.

His laum bell might loud and wide be heard

When cause requir'd, but never out of time,

Early and late it rung at evening and at *prime.* *Spenser.*

Sure pledge of day, that crown'd the smiling morn

With thy bright circlet, praise him in thy sphere

While day arises, that sweet hour of *prime.* *Milton.*

2. The beginning; the early days.

Quickly sundry arts mechanical were found out in the very

prime of the world. *Hooker, b. i. f. 10.*

Nature here wanton'd as in her *prime.* *Milton.*

3. The best part.

Give no more to ev'ry guest,

Than he's able to digest,

Give him always of the *prime,*

And but little at a time. *Swift.*

4. The spring of life; the height of health, strength or beauty.

Make haste, sweet love, whilst it is *prime,*

For none can call again the passed time. *Spenser.*

Will she yet debate her eyes on me,

That crot the golden *prime* of this sweet prince,

And made her widow to a woful bed? *Shakesp. Rich. III.*

Youth, beauty, wisdom, courage, virtue, all

That happiness and *prime* can happy call. *Shakesp.*

Likeliest the seem'd to Ceres in her *prime.* *Milton.*

No poet ever sweetly sung,

Unless he were, like Phœbus, young;

Nor ever nymph inspir'd to rhyme,

Unless, like Venus, in her *prime.* *Swift.*

Short were her marriage joys; for in the *prime*

Of youth, her lord expir'd before his time. *Dryden.*

5. Spring.

Hope waits upon the flow'ry *prime,*

And summer, though it be less gay,

Yet is not look'd on as a time

Of declination or decay. *Waller.*

The poet and his theme in spite of time,

For ever young enjoys an endless *prime.* *Granville.*

6. The height of perfection.

The plants which now appear in the most different seasons,

would have been all in *prime*, and flourishing together at the

same time. *Woodward.*

7. The first canonical hour.

8. The first part; the beginning; as, the *prime* of the moon.

PRIME. *adj.* [primus, Lat.]

1. Early; blooming.

His itary helm unbuckl'd, shew'd him *prime*

In manhood, where youth ended. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

2. Principal; first rate.

Divers of *prime* quality, in several counties, were, for re-

fusing to pay the same, committed to prison.

Nor can I think, that God will so destroy

We his *prime* creatures dignify'd so high. *Milton.*

Humility and resignation are our *prime* virtues. *Dryden.*

3. First;

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3. First; original.

We smother'd

The most replenish'd sweet work of nature,

That from the *prime* creation e'er she fram'd. *Shakesp.*

Moses being chosen by God to be the ruler of his people,

will not prove that priesthood belonged to Adam's heir, or the

prime fathers. *Locke.*

4. Excellent. It may, in this loose sense, perhaps admit,

though scarcely with propriety, a superlative.

We are contented with

Catharine our queen, before the *primst* creature

That's paragon'd i' th' world. *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*

TO PRIME. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To put in the first powder; to put powder in the pan of a

gun.

A pistol of about a foot in length, we *primed* with well-

dried gunpowder. *Boyle.*

Prime all your firelocks, fasten well the stake. *Gay.*

His friendship was exactly tim'd,

He shot before your foes were *prim'd.* *Swift's Miscel.*

2. [Primer, Fr. to begin.] To lay the first colours on in paint-

ing. A Gallicism.

PRIMELY. *adv.* [from *prime.*]

1. Originally; primarily; in the first place; in the first inten-

tion.

Words signify not immediately and *primely* things them-

selves, but the conceptions of the mind about them. *South.*

2. Excellently; supremely well. A low sense.

PRIMENESS. *n. f.* [from *prime.*]

1. The state of being first.

2. Excellence.

PRIMER. *n. f.*

1. An office of the blessed Virgin.

Another prayer to her is not only in the manual, but in

the *primer* or office of the blessed Virgin. *Stillington.*

2. [Primarius, Lat.] A small prayer book in which children

are taught to read, so named from the Romish book of devo-

tions; an elementary book.

The Lord's prayer, the creed and ten commandments

he should learn by heart, not by reading them himself in his

primer, but by somebody's repeating them before him can

read. *Locke on Education.*

PRIMERO. *n. f.* [Spanish.] A game at cards.

I left him at *primero*

With the duke of Suffolk. *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*

PRIMEVAL. *adj.* [primævus, Lat.] Original; such as was

PRIMEVOUS. } at first.

Immortal dove,

Thou with almighty energy did'st move

On the wild waves, incumbent did'st display

Thy genial wings, and hatch *primeval* day. *Blackmore.*

All the parts of this great fabric change;

Quit their old stations and *primeval* frame,

And lose their shape, their essence, and their name. *Prior.*

PRIMITIAL. *adj.* [primitivus, Lat.] Being of the first

production. *Ainsworth.</*